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ABSTRACT

The invention relates to the identification of TIG2, the polypeptide product of **Tazarotene-Induced Gene 2**, as a natural ligand of the ChemR23 G protein coupled receptor (GPCR). The invention encompasses the use of the interaction of ChemR23 polypeptides and TIG2 polypeptides as the basis of screening assays for agents that modulate the activity of the ChemR23 receptor. The invention also encompasses diagnostic assays based upon the ChemR23/TIG2 interaction, as well as kits for performing diagnostic and screening assays.